

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO USINFO WASHDC
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SECSTATE FOR EUR/IB DURKEE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION: VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S TRIP

1. THE SPANISH PRESS, DESPITE ITS PREOCCUPATION WITH
DRAMATIC INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS, HAS GIVEN HEAVY
STRAIGHT NEWS COVERAGE TO VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S
TRIP.

2. CENTER-LEFT DIARIO 16 IN A STORY HEADLINED
"U.S. DOESN'T WANT COMMUNISTS IN ITALIAN GOVERNMENT"
SAYS VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE "USED THE OCCASION OF
HIS VISIT TO ITALY TO REITERATE TO ANDREOTTI THE
HOSTILITY OF THE WHITE HOUSE TOWARD ANY AGREEMENT
WHICH WOULD LEAD TO COMMUNISTS ENTERING THE GOVERNMENT."
DIARIO'S BRUSSELS CORRESPONDENT NOTED THAT MONDALE
"TOLD THE NATO COUNCIL OF THE CONTINUED INTEREST OF THE
UNITED STATES IN HAVING SPAIN ENTER NATO."

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3. THE GOVERNMENT-LINKED ARRIBA SAID IN A LEAD STORY THAT
"WITHOUT DOUBT THE MAJOR TOPIC OF THE SCHMIDT-MONDALE
CONVERSATIONS, AFTER THE ECONOMIC QUESTION WAS DISPOSED
OF, WAS THE SALE OF NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS TO BRAZIL."
THE PAPER WENT ON TO POINT OUT THAT ALTHOUGH THE GERMAN
CHANCELLOR SAID HIS COUNTRY WOULD CARRY OUT ITS CONTRACTURAL
OBLIGATIONS, HE ALSO AGREED THAT NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

MUST BE HALTED.

4. CENTER-LEFT EL PAIS NOTED THAT "RELATIONS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST EUROPE WERE THE PREDOMINANT POINTS DISCUSSED BETWEEN THE FRENCH PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT MONDALE" IN A STORY WHICH STRESSED FRENCH PREOCCUPATION THAT THE UNITED STATES CONTINUE ITS COMMITMENT TO THE DEFENSE OF EUROPE.

5. MONARCHIST ABC POINTED OUT THAT "THE AMERICAN VISITOR IN HIS TRIP TO ITALY, WAS INTERESTED IN COMMUNISM WHILE THE ITALIANS WERE MOST CONCERNED WITH ECONOMIC PROBLEMS." THE PAPER GOES ON TO SAY THAT " THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS BEGUN TO SUSPECT THAT SOONER OR LATER IT WILL HAVE TO FACE THE POSSIBILITY OF AN ITALIAN GOVERNMENT WITH COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION."

6. MODERATE CATHOLIC YA, POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH MONDALE SPENT ONLY TWO HOURS IN BERLIN, HIS VISIT "IS PROOF THAT THE U.S. WILL MAINTAIN ITS RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS IN THE FORMER GERMAN CAPITAL. THE YANKEES DEMONSTRATED THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH BERLIN DURING THE BRIEF VISIT."

7. MODERATE INFORMACIONES SAID THE REAL MONDALE MISSION IS INFORMATION -- BOTH GIVING AND RECEIVING. THE PAPER SAID "HE HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH DEFINING TO EUROPEAN LEADERS, MEMBERS OF THE NINE AND NATO, AS WELL TOKYO, THE OVERALL POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES -- ECONOMIC, UNCLASSIFIED

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MONETARY, COMMERCIAL AND MILITARY... WE WELL AS TO COLLECT THE REACTIONS OF THE WEST AND JAPAN TO THAT POLICY." ITEM. RYLANCE

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